

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An improved composition for ~~the accelerated whitening of a tooth~~ surface, which composition comprises:
 - (a) ~~a separate stable high pH primer solution itself comprising hypochlorite and~~ having a pH greater than about 8.5 to about 13; and
 - (b) ~~a separate tooth whitening composition itself comprising peroxide,~~
~~wherein said tooth whitening composition having been added to said primer~~
~~solution after said primer solution is applied to said tooth surface component~~
~~(a) is applied first and component (b) are is contacted and combined with~~
~~component (a) contacted with each other on and the combination thus~~
~~comprises a more reactive composition on said surface of a tooth.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The improved composition of Claim 1 wherein in ~~step (a)~~ the primer solution has a pH of between about 8.5 and 12.
3. (Currently Amended) The improved composition of Claim 1 wherein the hypochlorite is selected from the group consisting of sodium hypochlorite, potassium hypochlorite, calcium hypochlorite, barium hypochlorite, and combinations thereof.
4. (Currently Amended) The improved composition of Claim 1 wherein the peroxide is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen peroxide, sodium peroxide, potassium peroxide, carbamide peroxide, sodium perborate, sodium percarbonate, and combinations thereof.
5. (Original) The improved composition of Claim 1 wherein the peroxide is hydrogen peroxide.

6. (Original) The improved composition of Claim 1 wherein the hypochlorite is sodium hypochlorite.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A kit for the improved and accelerated whitening of a tooth, which kit comprises:

(a) first composition of a stable high pH primer-whitener solution itself comprising hypochlorite and having a pH of greater than about 8.5 up to about 13;

(b) a separate peroxide solution; and

(c) means for applying said primer-whitener solution to the surface of said tooth;

(ec) instructions describing application of said primer-whitener solution to said tooth prior to application of said peroxide solution to said tooth; said improved tooth-whitening process.

15. (Currently Amended) The kit of Claim 14 further comprising an applicator configured for applying said primer-whitener solution or said peroxide solution to the surface of said tooth, which further includes:

- ~~(a) a second tooth whitening composition itself comprising a peroxide; and~~
~~(b) means for applying said second tooth whitening composition to said tooth;~~

16. (Currently Amended) A kit for improved ~~and accelerated~~ whitening of a tooth, which kit comprises:

- (a) a first composition of a stable high-pH primer solution itself comprising hypochlorite and having a pH of greater than about 8.5 up to about 13;
- (b) means for applying said first pH primer solution to ~~the~~ a surface of said tooth;
- (c) a second tooth whitening composition itself comprising a peroxide;
- ~~(d) means for applying said second tooth whitening composition to said tooth;~~
- ~~(e) optionally including a dental fluoride treatment composition;~~
- ~~(f) optionally means for applying said optional dental fluoride treatment composition to the surface of said tooth; and~~
- ~~(ed) instructions describing said improved tooth whitening process.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The kit of Claim 16 wherein: ~~components (e) and (f) are not present~~ further comprising a dental fluoride treatment composition.

18. (Currently Amended) The kit of Claim ~~wherein said tooth whitening comprises~~ applying said primer solution to said surface prior to applying said whitening composition to said surface ~~16 wherein components (e) and (f) are present.~~

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently amended) An improved composition for the accelerated whitening a tooth surface, which composition comprises:

(a) a stable high pH primer solution itself comprising hypochlorite and having a pH greater than about 8.5 to about 13 which is present in a concentration of between about 0.1 and 5 weight % of the total composition, said primer solution being configured to synergistically enhance performance of a tooth whitening composition applied to said tooth surface after application of said primer solution;
and

(b) a flavoring agent in ~~the an~~ amount of between about 0.001 and 5% by weight of the total composition, ~~and are mixed with each other and comprise an active composition on said surface of a tooth.~~

22. (Original) The improved composition of Claim 21 wherein the flavoring agent is selected from the group consisting of, but is not limited to mint, oil of wintergreen, oil of peppermint, oil of spearmint, clove bund oil, menthol, anethole, methyl salicylate, eucalyptol, cassia, 1-menthyl acetate, sage, eugenol, parsley oil, oxanone, alpha-irisone, marjoram, lemon, orange, propenyl guaethol, cinnamon, vanillin, thymol, linalool, cinnamaldehyde glycerol acetal, and mixtures thereof.

23. (New) The kit of claim 15, wherein said applicator comprises a tray, a brush, or a strip.

24. (New) The kit of claim 16, wherein said instructions say to add said primer solution to said surface of said tooth prior to adding said second tooth whitening composition to said surface of said tooth.